

Remarks

All pending claims further stand rejected as obvious over Shimizu in view of Ahern. The Examiner states that the office action contains a new ground of rejection, but in fact makes the same obviousness rejections, over the same prior art, as in the office action of March 17, 2003. The Examiner's remarks are, for the most part, a verbatim copy of the previous office action. Applicant therefore incorporates his previous remarks in response to the Examiner's repeated arguments.

The Claims have been amended to correct grammar, improve clarity and to place the case in condition for appeal. The amended claims are not intended to surrender any previously claimed subject matter.

Amended independent claims 1, 13 and 14 each require means for or steps of determining the relative direction from the location of a first display screen to the location of second-display means. The examiner asserts that this functionality is described in the cited art. Applicant respectfully disagrees. The cited portions are only concerned with relative (actual and virtual) positions of cursors on the two screens and do not mention or suggest that the cursor disappears off an edge of his screen. Shimizu makes no reference to or suggestion of systems or steps for determining the relative physical direction from the location of his first display screen to the location of his second display means or for using information regarding the relative direction to control appearance and disappearance of the cursor and/or visual indications. Ahern adds nothing to Shimizu's description in this regard. Since the cited references, taken alone or in combination, fail to

describe or suggest elements of all of applicant's independent claims, they cannot make the claimed invention obvious to a person skilled in the art. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103 and allowance of all claims is urged.

The Examiner has generally failed to find the express features of the dependent claims in the cited art and has instead relied on impermissible hindsight and speculation to support his arguments that the claimed features are obvious.

Claims 7 and 8 require a docking cradle attached to an edge of the first and means for sensing that the second means are in the cradle. The Examiner's argument that these features are suggested by a drawing that shows two displays "right next to" each other is speculative and without proper basis.

Claims 9 require a wireless interface and a directional antenna. The Examiner states that this feature is present in Ahern, apparently based on an argument that Ahern does not illustrate connecting wires between computers in his drawings. It is submitted that this schematic drawing omission of a standard system feature (ie wires), which fundamentally unrelated to Ahern's invention, does not suggest wireless network communication, but even if it did there is no indication in Ahern of a directional antenna which determines the relative direction between the stated locations. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is urged.

Similarly Claim 10 requires directional infrared sensors and neither the text cited by the Examiner nor any other portion of the Shimizu or Ahern patents make any mention of infrared light, infrared interfaces or infrared light sensors. It is therefore submitted that Shimizu, taken alone or in combination with the secondary

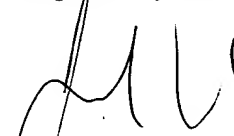
reference cannot make the subject matter of claim 10 obvious to a person skilled in the art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is urged.

Similarly Claim 11 requires that the second display comprises indicator lights while the text cited by the Examiner concerns is unrelated and concerns pixel counts and pitch on displays such as CRT's. Neither the text cited by the Examiner nor any other portion of the Shimizu patent makes any mention of indicator lights.

The Examiner's statement that claims 9 – 12 are "moot in view of the new ground of rejection" is not understood. The claims are properly pending in the application and the PTO must properly act upon them.

Prompt allowance of all pending claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Jack E. Haken Reg. No. 26,902
PO Box 178
Millwood NY 10546
Tel 914 333 9650
(Attorney under 37 CFR 1.34(a))
September 29, 2003